

Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review -
Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules
and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202
of the Telecommunications Act of 1996,
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking,
MM Docket No. 02-277, (rel. Sept. 23, 2002)

To: The Secretary, FCC Commissioners, and Chief, Media Bureau

In reference to Docket No. 02-277, the Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules: For the sake of fair competition, diversity and local voice in today's media market, I demand that the FCC retain all current media ownership rules now in question. These rules serve the public interest by limiting the market power of the huge, dominant companies and players in the broadcast industry.

A biased political party (Republicans-owned media) severely damages the credibility of the media. The studies commissioned by the FCC do not accurately demonstrate, or even attempt to demonstrate, the negative effects that media deregulation and consolidation have had on the diversity of our media. While there may indeed be more sources of media than ever before, the spectrum of views presented has been severely limited.

The right to conduct an informed debate and discussion of current events is part of the founding philosophy of our nation. Our forefathers believed that democracy was renewed in the marketplace of diverse ideas. If the FCC allows our media outlets to merge and consolidate further, our ability to have an open, informed discussion from a wide variety of viewpoints will be compromised and all trust in media will be gone.

We demand the FCC preserve the public interest by keeping the media ownership rules in question intact. If not, all television will become the joke and biased soap oprah that FOXNEWS has become.

I support the FCC's plan to hold a public hearing on this matter in Richmond, VA in February of 2003 and strongly encourage the Commission to hold similar hearings in all parts of the country and solicit the widest possible participation from the public.

Thank you,

John and Lisa Baker and family